

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MICHIOKA et al.

Atty. Dkt. No. 101160-00025

Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Divisional of SN 09/656,413

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Filed: August 22, 2003

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING ROLLING ELEMENT STRING

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: August 22, 2003

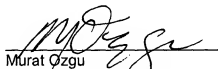
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/656,413, filed September 6, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
		101160-00025	To Be Assigned
		APPLICANT	
		MICHIOKA et al.	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE	GROUP
		Filed Herewith	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	3,878,734	04/22/1975	Zeldman et al.	74	229	08/25/1972
	AB	5,684,088	11/04/1997	Miyamori et al.	525	64	03/29/1995
	AC	5,755,516	05/26/1998	Teramachi et al.	384	45	01/27/1997
	AD	5,947,605	09/07/1999	Shirai	384	45	04/13/1998
	AE	5,988,883	11/23/1999	Takamatu et al.	384	45	07/23/1998
	AF	6,080,351	06/27/2000	Shirai	264	267	06/11/1998
	AG	6,152,602	11/28/2000	Honma et al.	384	45	01/28/1999
	AH	6,155,718	12/05/2000	Takamatsu et al.	384	45	04/14/2000

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION		
						YES	NO	PART.
	AJ	62-090226	04/24/1987	JP				
	AJ	05-052215	03/02/1993	JP				
	AK	05-052217	03/02/1993	JP				
	AL	42 02 098	07/29/1993	DE				
	AM	05-231431	09/07/1993	JP				
	AN	06-173946	06/21/1994	JP				
	AO	10-238539	09/08/1998	JP				

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AP	Patent Abstracts of Japan: Inventor: Teramachi Hiroshi; "Ball Chain"; Application No.: 03-235563; Publication Date: March 2, 1993
AQ	Patent Abstracts of Japan: Inventor: Teramachi Hiroshi; "Ball Gauge"; Application No.: 04-060991; Publication Date: September 7, 1993
AR	Patent Abstracts of Japan: Inventor: Ebina Shigeru; "Ball Chain"; Application No.: 09-046179; Publication Date: September 8, 1998
EXAMINER	
DATE CONSIDERED	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.